AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application.

<u>Listing of Claims:</u>

1-82 (Cancelled)

- 83. (Currently Amended) A method of lowering cholesterol in a mammal in need thereof, wherein said mammal expresses a functional low density lipoprotein (LDL) receptor, said method comprising intravascularly administering to said mammal a replication-defective adenoviral vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule that encodes a secreted polypeptide consisting of having at least 90% sequence identity to an amino acid sequence comprising at least amino acid residues 1-185 of SEQ ID NO:2 or amino acid residues 1-185 of SEQ ID NO:2 and one or more of amino acids 186-259 of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein said nucleic acid does not encode amino acids 260-299 of SEQ ID NO:2 and said polypeptide, when expressed in said mammal, lowers the total serum cholesterol level without inducing hypertriglyceridemia.
- 84. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83, wherein said polypeptide has at least 90% sequence identity to amino acid residues 1-202 of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 85. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 84, wherein said polypeptide has 100% sequence identity to amino acid residues 1-202 of SEQ ID NO:2.
 - 86. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83, wherein said polypeptide has at

least 90% sequence identity to amino acid residues 1-229 of SEQ ID NO:2.

- 87. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 86, wherein said polypeptide has 100% sequence identity to amino acid residues 1-229 of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 88. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83, wherein said polypeptide has at least 90% sequence identity to amino acid residues 1-259 of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 89. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 88, wherein said polypeptide has 100% sequence identity to amino acid residues 1-259 of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 90. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83, wherein said polypeptide has 100% sequence identity to amino acid residues 1-185 of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 91. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83, wherein said vector is administered intravenously.
- 92. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 91, wherein said vector is administered to an artery at the site of a lesion.
- 93. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83, wherein said mammal lacks an endogenous, normally functioning apoE gene.

- 94. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83, wherein said mammal is at risk for developing atherosclerosis due to accumulation of lipoprotein remnants in the bloodstream.
- 95. (Previously Presented) The method claim of 83, wherein said nucleic acid is administered to or expressed in the liver of said mammal.
- 96. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83, wherein said polypeptide further comprises a signal peptide.
- 97. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 96, wherein said signal peptide comprises a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13.
- 98. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83, wherein said nucleic acid encodes amino acids 1-203 of an apoE preprotein of any one of SEQ ID Nos. 14-19.
- 99. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83, wherein said nucleic acid encodes amino acids 1-220 of an apoE preprotein of any one of SEQ ID Nos. 14-19.
- 100. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83, wherein said nucleic acid encodes amino acids 1-247 of an apoE preprotein of any one of SEQ ID Nos. 14-19.

101. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83, wherein said nucleic acid encodes amino acids 1-277 of an apoE preprotein of any one of SEQ ID Nos. 14-19.